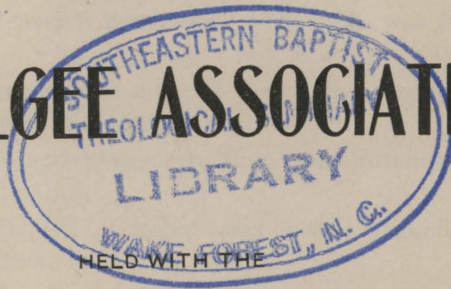


MINUTES

OF THE

One Hundred and First Session of the

OCMULGEE ASSOCIATION



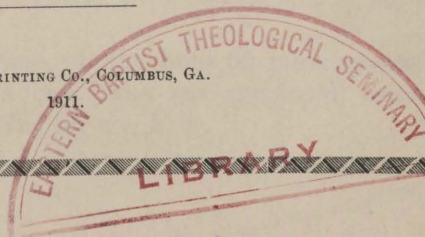
Church at Fellowship

Jasper County, Georgia,

September 8th, 9th and 10th,
1911.

GILBERT PRINTING CO., COLUMBUS, GA.

1911.



97
74
23

MINUTES

The meeting was held on the 1st day of the month of

at the residence of the Secretary

present at the meeting

was read the minutes of the last meeting

and the same were approved

and the meeting adjourned

MINUTES.

Of the One Hundred and First Annual Session of the Ocmulgee Association, held with the church at Fellowship, Jasper County, Ga., September 8th, 9th and 10th, 1911.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder J. A. Taylor, of the Ebenezer Association. The text was from St. John v.

The Association was opened with prayer by Brother J. M. Adams of the Oconee Association.

Received letters and messengers from ten churches and enrolled messengers' names.

On motion, Elder J. H. Gresham was chosen Moderator, and J. W. Newton, Clerk.

Appointed Elder J. D. Curtis to write the next Circular Letter.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

Read our Decorum.

On motion, our Decorum was ordered printed in our minutes.

Called for Petitionary Letters.

On motion, adopted same order of business as last year.

The following Committees were appointed:

On Deceased Members—Elders J. D. Curtis, W. J. Green, J. T. Cannon.

On Preaching—C. W. Bragg, J. T. Comer, J. H. Williamson, E. E. Carter, together with Moderator and church delegation.

To Write Corresponding Letter—Elders J. D. Curtis, J. H. Williamson, C. W. Bragg.

To Examine and Report on the Circular Letter—Elders W. J. Green, J. D. Curtis, J. W. Newton.

The Association took a recess of one hour for refreshments, after which Brother J. M. Adams, who was appointed, came forward and occupied the stand for one hour.

The Association resumed business and called for correspondence from sister Associations and received as follows:

Yellow River—Elder R. L. Cook.

Oconee—Brothers J. M. Adams, G. L. Adams, G. T. Whitworth.

Primitive Ebenezer—Elders J. A. Taylor, E. J. Davidson, J. N. Souther.

Marietta—Letter and minutes.

Delaware River and Warwick—Letter and minutes.

Kehukee—No tidings.

Echeconnee—Elders J. T. Reynolds, J. M. Frederick, B. H. Bagley.

On motion, appointed correspondents to sister Associations, as follows:

Yellow River—Elders J. D. Curtis, W. J. Green.

Echeconnee—Elders J. T. Glover, W. J. Green, J. A. McGowen, J. W. Newton, G. W. Webb.

Primitive Ebenezer—Elders W. J. Green, J. H. Gresham.

Marietta—Elders J. D. Curtis, W. J. Green.

Delaware River and Warwick—Elder W. J. Green.

On motion, any member of this Association who may be able to attend our sister Associations be appointed as our messenger to them.

The Association adjourned until 8:30 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Prayer by Elder J. D. Curtis.

SATURDAY MORNING.

September 9th, 1911, 8:30 o'clock—The Association met and was led in prayer by Elder J. T. Reynolds of the Echeconnee Association.

First. Called for further correspondence and received Elder J. A. Monsees from the Echeconnee and Brethren W. B. Hurst and A. B. Barber of the Yellow River Association.

Next called for visiting brethren from Associations with whom we do not correspond, and received Elder C. B. Spivey.

Called for the Corresponding Letter which was read, received and adopted.

Appointed Union Meetings as follows:

First District—Fellowship Church to commence on Friday, before the third Sunday in July, 1912.

Second District—Mount Pleasant Church, Jones County, Ga., to convene Friday before the fifth Sunday in June, 1912.

Called for the Circular Letter, which was prepared by Brother C. W. Bragg. It was read, received and adopted.

On motion called for report of Committees as follows:

On Deceased Members—That Crooked Creek have lost by death Brethren T. R. Spivey, Richard Bachelor and Sister F. A. Hencley.

Enon Church—Sister Margret McLane, also one colored sister, Harriet Farar.

Shoal Creek—Report the death of Sister Frances Knight. We bow in humble submission to Him who does all things well.

On motion, the Circular Letter prepared by Brother Talbot and which appears in the minutes of this Association held with the Church at Sugar Creek, Morgan County, Ga., August 31st, 1811, be reproduced in this minute, that our brethren and friends may see and know that we still hold to the same doctrine that was so dear to our membership one hundred years ago and that is to us to-day.

Resolved, That this Association feel to give thanks to Almighty God, and to the brethren, sisters and friends for the kindness we have received at their hands during this meeting.

The next session of this body is appointed to be held with the church at Ephesus, Monroe County, Ga., two miles west of Juliette, Ga., on the Southern Railway, and eight miles east of Forsyth on the Central of Georgia Railway, where we hope to meet again to worship in His holy name.

On motion the Clerk is requested to have 600 copies of these minutes printed and distributed, and that his compensation be the balance of the funds sent for minutes after paying for same.

Called for contribution and distributing of minutes.

The Committee on Finance took charge of funds sent up for visiting ministers and report \$41.50 received for that purpose and report division of same, said being Brethren W. M. James, J. H. Hitchcock and J. W. McElheney.

Adjourned.

J. H. GRESHAM, *Moderator*.

J. W. NEWTON, *Clerk*.

Ministers and their Post Office.

J. H. GRESHAM.....Round Oak, Jones County, Ga.
 J. T. GLOVER..... Wayside, Jones County, Ga.
 W. J. GREEN..... Wayside, Jones County, Ga.
 JOE HUDSON.....Eatonton, Putnam County, Ga.
 J. D. CURTIS..... Mansfield, Newton County, Ga.
 J. A. ADAMS.....Glover, Jones County, Ga.

Licentiates.

T. C. HAMMOCK.

W. O. MEEKS.

Order of Preaching.

Elder J. A. Taylor, of the Ebenezer, preached the Introductory Sermon Friday morning at 11:00 o'clock. After one hour's respite, Brother J. M. Adams, of Oconee, preached.

Saturday morning 10:00 o'clock—Elder J. D. Curtis preached, followed by Elder R. L. Cook, of the Yellow River.

Saturday afternoon—Elder J. T. Reynolds, of the Echeconnee, followed by Elder Joe Hudson.

Sunday morning 10:00 o'clock—Elder J. A. Monsees of the Echeconnee, followed by Elder C. B. Spivey.

The Association closed at noon by taking the parting hand with much feeling of the Holy Spirit's presence, Elder J. A. Taylor staying to preach to any who might remain to hear more preaching at 2:30 P. M.

Corresponding Letter.

The Ocmulgee Association of Primitive Baptists now in session with the church at Fellowship, Jasper County, Ga., Sept. 8th, 9th and 10th, 1911, to the several Associations with whom we correspond, sends Christian salutation:

DEAR BRETHREN: Our session has been one of love, peace and harmony. We were made to rejoice to have your ministers and messengers to meet with us again to worship our Heavenly Father. The preaching has been in demonstration and power of the Spirit, rightly dividing the word, and our souls have been comforted. We most earnestly desire a continuance of your correspondence. Our next Association is appointed to be held with our sister church Ephesus, Monroe County, Ga., two miles west of Juliette, Ga., on the Southern Railway, beginning Friday before the second Sunday in September, 1912, when and where we hope to meet you again. Until then, farewell.

J. H. GRESHAM,
Moderator.

J. W. NEWTON,
Clerk.

Circular Letter.

The Ocmulgee Association, now in session with Fellowship Church, Jasper County, Georgia, to the several churches that compose the same, sends Christian Greetings:

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST: In addressing you in this, our annual Circular Letter, I will take as my subject, "Faith." And my beloved friends, I want to, if the Lord wills, show to those who have this faith how it is that faith is made perfect or manifest. We first want to know what faith is. Paul says: "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."—Heb. xi 1. Next, we want to know how we obtain this faith. Again, Paul says: "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God." Now we understand that the Word spoken of here is the living Word; that, John says, in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, etc., and the same was made flesh and dwelt among us, and was the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. Now we evidently see that this Word is Jesus, and now, brethren, we want to show how important it is after we obtain this faith that it be not a dead faith. James says: "Even so, faith, if it has not works, is dead," being alone or by itself. Brethren, we do not want a dead faith, so let us be up and doing.

Paul, in Heb. xi 1, after enumerating the wonders and miracles done by a great many of the ancient worthies, "which was done by faith," commences in Chap. xii and says: "Wherefore seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us," looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.

Brethren, when we, like Paul, are arrested on the highway of persecution and are made to see ourselves as we are, it is then by faith we realize that Jesus is our Saviour, and then we begin to inquire, "Lord, who art thou and what wilt thou have me to do?" Now, dear children of God, after the impression comes to go home to our friends, telling what the Lord has done for us, and after, through baptism, we are received by these friends, we have just begun to enter into this race, and then we feel like saying as did the poet: "O let me run the Christian race with diligence and speed," God's Word, His Spirit and His Grace do all to duty lead.

Dear children of God we surely do feel at that time that there is a duty for us to perform, and it is only through duty that we are made happy. But when we are tempted and yield to those temptations, then trouble begins to arise, and brethren, let us not charge God with any of our wrongdoings for says James i 14-15: "But every man is tempted when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed," then when lust conceives it bringeth forth sin, and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Now, brethren, have you not often been impressed to do good deeds or sometimes to say something that would be encouraging to God's

little ones? Those impressions are surely of the Lord and should be heeded, but when we excuse ourselves by saying, "I may be deceived, or I am too unworthy," don't you feel to be condemned for neglect of duty? Those righteous impressions do not come from Satan, for they are good gifts, and every good gift and every perfect gift cometh down from the Father of lights, in whom there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.—James i 17.

What doth it profit my brethren though a man say he hath faith and hath not works; can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, "Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled," notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body, what doth it profit? Even so, faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.—James ii 18-26. Then he goes on in the balance of the chapter and says: "Yea, a man may say thou hath faith and I have works; shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works; thou believest that there is one God, thou doest well; the devil also believes and trembles.

"But wilt thou know, Oh vain man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect, and the Scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness, and he was called the friend of God; ye see then how by works a man is justified and not by faith only; likewise was not also Rahab the harlot justified by works when she had received the messengers and had sent them out another way? For, as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."

Now brethren, in conclusion will say let us put on the whole armour of the Lord and be up and doing, letting our light so shine that others seeing our good works may thereby glorify our Father which is in heaven.

Dear children of God, farewell! May our lives be more consecrated to the service of our blessed Master, and the grace of God be with you all. Amen.

J. H. GRESHAM, *Moderator.*

J. W. NEWTON, *Clerk.*

Circular Letter.

[Written one hundred years ago by Brother Talbot.]

The Ocmulgee Baptist Association to the churches they represent, send greeting:

DEAR BRETHREN: We have the pleasure to address you this year through the channel of a Circular Letter; and to avoid all pompous ceremonies, we shall study the simplicity of the gospel that we profess.

Therefore we shall call your attention to the subject of Christian fellowship. This we conceive is founded in fellowship with God the Father, and His Son Jesus Christ, through the agency of the divine spirit, and consists of cordial and affectionate agreement in the essentials of religion.

The importance of this bond of union is plainly revealed in the Volume of Revelation, and the slightest attention to the same, will plainly evidence to us the necessity of Christian fellowship.

To this important purpose permit us to remind you, all who name the name of Jesus, may effectually contribute, by proper attention, to the subject before us.

Brethren, suffer the word of exhortation to cherish Christian fellowship. Consider the stress the scriptures lay on it. Hear the Word of the Lord. Be reconciled to God. How can two walk together except they agree? Be workers together with Christ. Quench not the spirit. Acquiesce, yea rejoice in the divine administration. Keep your heart in the love of God. Love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity and in truth. A new commandment says our Lord, I give unto you, that ye love one another again this is my commandment that you love one another as I have loved you. St. John says, "and this is his commandment, that we should believe on the name of his son Jesus Christ, and love one another." The Apostles all speak the same language. Let love be without dissimulation. Be kindly affectionate one to another with brotherly love. By love serve one another: walk in love as Christ has loved us. Ye yourselves are bought of God to love one another, but we beseech you that you abound more and more; this holy affection includes Christian fellowship, which grows with its growth and strengthens with its strength. Be careful to guard your fellowship as Christians against whatever tends to interrupt or weaken it. Abhor that which is evil. What fellowship hath light with darkness or Christ with Belial? Stand at the most cautious distance, not only from injustice, but from all kind of excess, falsehood, taking the name of the Lord in vain, lasciviousness, cruelty and profanity, which ought not to be named amongst Christians but with detestation and abhorrence. But shun the very appearance of evil, hating even the garments spotted with flesh.

In things indifferent in themselves take no offensive liberty; when you sin against the brethren and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ. Be equally careful never to receive an evil report, or to entertain an unfavorable opinion of a brother, but on full and unexceptionable testimony. It is too well known, that not only small faults but sometimes innocent and even virtuous actions, by ignorant or malignant representations assume the appearance of atrocious crimes. Ziba's lie made David angry with Mephibosheth. Eli through mistake charged Hannah with being drunk, when in fact she was making prayer to God, which was honored with an answer of peace. Judge not according to appearance, but judge righteous judgment.

And while you cherish and guard with equal faithfulness and assiduity, exercise your fellowship, one with another, that it may appear and increase your felicity in its correspondent effects. Sympathize with each other under all the dispensations of Providence. Weep with those who weep, and rejoice with those who rejoice. Comfort the feeble minded, support the weak in lowliness of mind, let each esteem others better than themselves, pray without ceasing, be solemn, regular and fervent in secret and family prayer, and constant in your attendance on public ordinances. Convene frequently but always in season, with one another, and others as opportunity may offer, on things pertaining to the Kingdom of God. Endeavor to please the Lord in your ways; it will make your enemies be at peace with you. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven. Ye are the light of the world; cherish, guard, exercise and extend your fellowship with unwearied solicitude. The salvation of men depends wholly on the success of the Christian cause; it is the cause of God. It constantly and rapidly gains ground, flourishes and triumphs. Its effects will reach, must reach the remotest nations, and the latest posterity. The foundation of the Lord standeth sure; we have not received cunningly devised fables. The apostles saw a variety of ancient prophecies fulfilled in our Lord, attended to the gracious words which proceeded from His lips, and the acknowledgements of thousands who received miraculous blessings at His hands. These are great truths in connection with His resurrection from the dead, and ascension to glory. They declare to the world, and sealed with their blood, that countless millions might be united in the bonds of Christian fellowship.

We conclude this letter with the cordial wishes for the continuation and increase of all your blessings.

We are, dear brethren, affectionately yours, in the faith and fellowship of the gospel.

JOSEPH BAKER, *Moderator.*

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, *Clerk.*

DECORUM

RULE 1. The churches composing this Association may be represented by messengers from their respective churches, bearing a statement certifying their appointment, together with the number baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excluded, died, etc., since the last Association. We desire that each church will name the number of messengers they desire to represent them in the Association.

RULE 2. The members thus chosen will denominate the OCMULGEE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

RULE 3. This Association will have a Moderator and Clerk, who will be chosen by the members present, and continue in office until others are elected.

RULE 4. We believe that each church is a sovereign, and fully clothed by the great Head of the Church with authority to execute gospel discipline. Therefore, we as an Association, declare that we will not receive from any church any disciplinary question to be discussed or adjusted.

RULE 5. If new churches desire to be admitted in this Association they may do so by making application to the Association and being constituted by an orthodox presbytery, and having the fellowship of orderly sister churches of this union, and will be manifested by the Moderator extending to the messengers the right hand of fellowship.

RULE 6. Every motion seconded should command the observation of the Association unless it be withdrawn by the one who made it.

RULE 7. We desire to keep a chain of correspondence with all orderly Primitive Baptist Associations.

RULE 8. This Association has the right to amend these rules when the majority of the union shall deem it necessary.

RULE 9. This Association may adjourn to any time or place she may think proper, and to have the minutes of the Association printed if necessary.

RULE 10. These rules have no jurisdiction over the churches whatever, but are to govern the members while present for the purpose of preserving order in the House of God while in session.

J. H. GRESHAM, *Moderator.*

J. W. NEWTON, *Clerk.*

SCALE OF CHURCHES.

CHURCHES	MESSENGERS	CLERKS AND ADDRESS	PASTORIAL SUPPLY	Rec'd by Baptism	Rec'd by Letter	Confession of Faith	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Dead	Total	Meeting Days	Money for Minutes
Enon	Geo. Ressa, Wm. Ressa	Wm. Ressa, Stanfordville, Ga. .	Joe Hudson ..	...	...	...	...	...	2 11	3 50	3 50	
Crooked Creek	E. E. Carter, J. T. Clements, C. M. Hudson	E. E. Carter, Eatonton, Ga.	Joe Hudson ..	2	...	...	...	...	3 25	1 1	50	
County Line ..	G. W. Hardin, J. A. Adams.....	J. A. Adams, Glover, Ga.	W. J. Green. .	...	...	...	1	...	3 19	1 1	00	
Mount Zion...	W. M. James, D. M. Moore, C. W. Bragg.	C. W. Bragg, Grays, Ga.	J. H. Gresham	1	...	...	...	1	49	3 3	00	
Mt. Pleasant .	J. M. Tyner, J. T. Comer.	J. M. Tyner, Wayside, Ga.	J. T. Reynolds	1	...	...	1	3	24	2 1	00	
New Hope	Eld. J. H. Gresham, Eld. W. J. Green....	B. R. Jarrell, Round Oak, Ga....	J. H. Gresham	1	3	...	1	1	147	4 2	50	
Ephesus	J. H. Williamson, W. M. Jackson	J. H. Williamson, Juliette, Ga. .	J. T. Glover	...	...	...	...	...	13	2 1	50	
Snymra	H. J. McKeney, J. T. Cannon, J. W. Newton	J. W. Newton, Forsyth, Ga.	W. W. West. .	1	3	...	...	...	37	4 3	00	
Shoal Creek. .	Eld. J. D. Curtis, W. F. Roberson	J. W. Curtis, Rutledge, Ga.	J. F. Alman ..	...	...	...	...	...	137	4 2	50	
Fellowship	W. L. Lane, J. H. Hitchcock.	J. W. McElhaney, Monticello, Ga.	W. J. Green. .	...	...	...	...	...	26	3 1	50	